



STATE SENATOR
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INFO & NEWS

from the

Indiana Senate

Young's Bill Helps Reduce Meth Production

In 2005, I authored the Meth Protection Act, which created strong restrictions on the sale of many products used to create meth. Since the passage of this law, Indiana has seen a steady decrease in the number of meth production labs across the state.

The new law had an immediate impact by making it harder for criminals to obtain cold and allergy medicines containing pseudoephedrine and requiring buyers to sign logs and produce identification. This has enabled police to track down the people who are going from store to store or returning day after day to try to beat the limits on purchases.



Here is an overview of what the law does:

- Retailers must store such drugs in a locked display case or behind a counter that requires employee assistance.

- Pharmacies may place the drugs directly in front of the pharmacy counter in the line of sight of a pharmacy employee and in an area under constant video monitoring.

- Customers purchasing these drugs must present identification and record their names, addresses and driver's license or other ID number in a log book provided and maintained by the retailer.

- Bars retailers from selling the drugs to individuals under age 18 and allows no more than 3 grams of drugs containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine in any one transaction.

- It also prevents customers from purchasing more than 3 grams of such drugs in a single week.

I am encouraged by the drop in the production of meth in our state but we must stay aware that meth is still a problem in our state, and we must be dedicated to continue the fight.



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Serving District 35 in Johnson, Marion
and Morgan Counties



Sen. Young introduces a page during the 2006 legislative session. Students who are interested in learning more about the legislative process are encouraged to contact his office. Pages spend a day in the Senate assisting their local legislators.

Did You Know...?

... that statewide, the average property tax bill went down this year?

... that on June 30, 2006, the state officially overcame a \$600 million deficit and closed its books for the fiscal year with a balanced budget for the first time in a decade?

Job Creation Legislation Proves Successful

— More jobs for Hoosiers are on the way —

Although the last two legislative sessions have been filled with substantial changes to the way Indiana does business, a priority in the Senate has been job creation. Although government actions cannot create jobs overnight, Indiana is beginning to see results just one year after the major economic development laws of 2005 were implemented.

In 2005, the General Assembly sped up and streamlined the creation of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), created tax breaks for research and development, passed a shovel-ready site development plan and expanded existing tax credits. The result: 85,000 more Hoosiers are working than in January 2005 and unemployment is at a low 4.9 percent.

More jobs are on the way. Recent job announcements include:

- **Honda announcing a \$550 million plant that will employ 2,000 people in Greensburg (the plant will have capacity for 4,000 employees)**

- **American Commercial Lines agreeing to create 1,100 jobs in Jeffersonville**
- **Federal Express announcing a \$200 million expansion creating 800 new jobs in Indianapolis**
- **Rolls Royce committing to bring 600 aerospace jobs to Indianapolis**
- **Pfizer deciding to create 450 jobs in Terre Haute**
- **American General Financial Services expanding its corporate headquarters to create 150 new jobs in Evansville**
- **Arbonne International opening a 400-employee distribution center in Greenwood.**
- **Nestle selecting Anderson for a 300-job facility**
- **Sallie Mae announcing 700 new jobs in Muncie**

Many other announcements have occurred in the past 18 months, many more are expected in the future, and I am committed to continuing to create a job-friendly environment here in Indiana.

BUILDING AN IMAGINATION LIBRARY

Enriching the Lives of Hoosier Children Through Reading

Countless studies have shown how important reading is to our children and for their academic futures. Young children whose parents interact with them verbally and read to them develop greater vocabularies and perform better in school. I encourage anyone with a young child to sign up for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

The program allows every child under the age of five who live in Hancock, Hendricks and Marion counties to build a library of their own, at no cost. They will receive a new hardcover book each month, sent directly to their home, thanks to the United Way of Central Indiana. All parents have to do is read the new books with their children and watch their imag-

inations and vocabularies grow.

Registration forms can be mailed to your home by dialing 211 or by signing up online at www.successby6indy.org.

This program is a great opportunity to enrich the lives of Hoosier children.

Related Links:

- www.imaginationlibrary.com
- www.unitedway.org



Cracking Down on Voter Fraud

Voter ID Law to Affect November Election

This November, Hoosiers will have the opportunity to exercise one of their most precious freedoms available—the vote.

It is the Legislature's responsibility to adopt policies that protect our representative democracy by ensuring each vote cast is valid and legal. The General Assembly did just that during the 2005 Legislative Session, passing a law that mandates that all voters must now present a photo ID in order to cast a vote.



Years ago, poll workers knew the people in their precinct and had no reason to question someone's identity. Now, it is increasingly common for Election Day volunteers to live in another town or city than the one in which they are serving. The voter ID law gives poll workers a tool to verify a person's identity.

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles has agreed to grant photo IDs free of charge to those who cannot pay the \$9 fee. In order to better accommodate Indiana voters, BMV branches will be open the day before the election and will remain open late on Election Day. Residents of state-licensed nursing homes are exempt from showing identification if the polling place is located inside the facility in which they live. The bill also protects the rights of those who have a religious objection to being photographed.

Voters who show up at the polls without identification will be able to fill out a provisional ballot. They then will be required to visit the county clerk or election board's office and show an ID or object on religious grounds.

Photo IDs are required for many commonplace circumstances that Americans face every day, like renting a video or obtaining a library card. It only makes sense that a photo ID be required for something as important as voting.



Senator Young listens to and reviews testimony in a Senate committee. When the Senate is not in session, Young still has work to do as chairman of the Administrative Rules and Oversight Committee. He also serves on the Pension Management Oversight Commission.

Defending the Right to Bear Arms

New laws protect rights of law-abiding citizens

"The people shall have a right to bear arms, for the defense of themselves and the State."

Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution grants us the freedom to own firearms and store them in our homes. I have always been a firm supporter of our 2nd Amendment rights and would like to tell you about two new laws that protect law-abiding gun owners.

The General Assembly passed legislation this year to simplify the handgun licensing process. Previously, everyone with a handgun license was required to have their permit updated and be fingerprinted every four years — even people who have had such a license all of their adult lives. There aren't too many unchanging things in life, but one of those is our fingerprints. The state finally acknowledged that licensed gun owners are law abiding citizens who should not be forced through this arbitrary and cumbersome process every four years.

The Indiana State Police issues about 80,000 gun permits per year; this measure will reduce that number and make the process much more efficient. Safety is still a top priority and law en-

forcement officers will continue to revoke licenses as necessary.

These small, sensible changes are a great improvement of the current system and make the licensing procedure much more efficient.

In addition, the Legislature added to statute something that is already widely accepted as case law. The "Stand Your Ground" law does basically three things to protect those who are protecting themselves.

It establishes the presumption that a criminal who forcibly enters or intrudes into your home or occupied vehicle is there to cause death or great bodily harm; therefore a person may use any manner of force, including deadly force, against that person.

It removes the "duty to retreat" if you are attacked in any place you have a right to be. You no longer have to turn your back on a criminal

and try to run when attacked. Instead, you may stand your ground and fight back, meeting force with force, including deadly force, if you reasonably believe it is necessary to prevent death or great bodily harm to yourself or others.

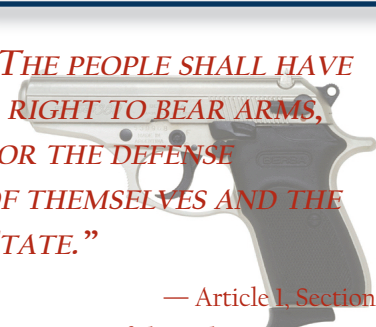
It provides that persons using force authorized by law shall not be prosecuted for using such force. It also prohibits criminals and their families from suing victims for injuring or killing the criminals who have attacked them. In short, it gives rights back to law-abiding people.

We felt it necessary to add these statutes to make the law in such situations perfectly clear—Hoosiers have the right to defend themselves and their families.

I am pleased we were able to accomplish these things in defense of our Constitution and for Hoosier gun owners.

"THE PEOPLE SHALL HAVE A RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS, FOR THE DEFENSE OF THEMSELVES AND THE STATE."

— Article 1, Section 32 of the Indiana Constitution



How to contact Senator Mike Young

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CALL:
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